

INTELLOFAX 12

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INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)
SUBJECT Soviet OB Notes: Eberswalde, Bernau
Bad Freienwalde
25X1A

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1. EBERSWALDE (VCS), 4-5 November 1949

a. A probable army headquarters is still based in the former administration building of the Almet Werke just outside EBERSWALDE on the road to FINOW. Officers billets are immediately adjacent. Trucks parked at the headquarters were in series. Trucks heading for FINOW were seen. The works itself is occupied by a paper concern which is producing cable insulation material for the Russians and by a cogwheel firm whose repair shop rebore Soviet tank cylinders among other services.

b. Barracks on the EBERSWALDE-TRAMPE highway consist of six buildings, each held by 500-550 troops wearing black shoulder boards/red piping; armored and artillery insignia were seen. Inside the compound were: eight JS-1, twelve T-34, twelve 76.2 mm AT guns '42, and two M-13 rocket launchers on trucks in the yard. Trucks entering the yard were seen.

c. The former casino at the entrance to the above barracks has been renovated and is occupied by a headquarters unit formerly located in the Markisch Electrical Works in western EBERSWALDE. Vehicle traffic at this point repeated series given in Paragraph 1b above.

d. Another barracks, at the eastern exit of EBERSWALDE and south of the EBERSWALDE-BAD FREIENWALDE highway, consists of fourteen building blocks, completely occupied. Estimated strength is 4,000 men. Nine garages were observed; others, source believes, may exist behind billets. Two of the nine sheds contained a total of 43 tanks; the remaining sheds were empty. In the yard were four JS-3, two T-34/85, and six more tanks. Vehicle traffic was seen.

2. BERNAU (296), 6 November 1949

a. A barracks located at the Autobahn-Schönow highway crossing is held by about 3,500 men wearing armored and artillery insignia, who are said to have returned during the last month from the Schorheide training area. They arrived by rail from the direction of EBERSWALDE in groups of 30-50 men. Officers were seen proceeding from this barracks to a building on the Weinbergsweg (a cross street on the Berliner Chaussee), which may contain a headquarters staff. Passenger cars parked there were seen.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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The barracks yard contained six 1500 tanks, also tanks numbered [REDACTED] (with 400 on their sides).

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c. The BMW Werke in BERGHEIM is working on private cars and motorcycles, although one of its repair shops is retained by the Russians as a storage depot for tank treads. Truck [REDACTED] loaded with treads, departed this site in the direction of WANDLITZ.

d. There are approximately 400 Volkspolizei in BERGHEIM. It is rumored that the Soviet clothing office may be taken over as billets for the police school.

5. BAD FRIEDENAU (V28), 6 November 1949

a. About 1,700 young troops occupy four building blocks situated one and a half kilometers southwest of BAD FRIEDENAU on the Berlin road. §§ They wear black shoulder straps/red piping and some have armored insignia. These troops are said to have arrived from the direction of BRESEN-BAU during the last month. §§§

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b. Twenty-six trucks on jacks were seen in garages which have an estimated capacity of 120 vehicles. The fuel dump near these sheds consists of 100-liter barrels, half buried in the ground. There was brisk traffic between this barracks and BERGHEIM by vehicles in [REDACTED].

c. According to the an employee of a cattle purchasing cooperative in BAD FRIEDENAU, the meat quota awarded from it earlier in 1949 was transferred to a similar cooperative in POTSDAM during the summer.

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Comments:

§ We have no record of the Ardet Werke. It is conceivable that the Ardet Werke is indicated.

§§ The exact tank figure is open to question. The original states, "In diesen beiden Hallen sind 48 Panzer abgestellt." The reader may judge whether this equivocation means a total of 48 or 96 tanks.

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§§§ Presumably this refers to the former Kradschützen Kaserne.

§§§§ [REDACTED] 18 September 1949) BAD FRIEDENAU strength as 1,500 armored and artilleryman, half former tenants, half recruits, "all of whom have been returning by rail from the Schorfheide area in small groups." [REDACTED]

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